

Sinclair Broadcasting's blatantly political decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. A corporate decision to broadcast one-sided propaganda under the guise of "news" is not in the public interest. Consolidated control of the airwaves is a threat to our democracy, because it limits our opportunities to hear many viewpoints on important issues. News judgments should be made at the local level, and not dictated by a corporate office.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.